

1 **SECURE USER AUTHENTICATION TO COMPUTING**
2 **RESOURCE VIA SMART CARD**

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4 **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

5 A simplified user authentication to a computer resource utilizing a smart
6 card. When a new user is issued a smart card, he or she is also issued a user
7 name (ID) and password to be used during a first use to activate the smart card.
8 The user then connects the smart card and enters the user ID and password. The
9 user is authenticated using the user ID and password and identifying information
10 from the smart card. The network administration server then requests a public key
11 from the workstation. The workstation instructs the smart card to generates public
12 and private key. The public key is transmitted to the server. A digital certificate is
13 created the smart card is activated. Once the smart card is activated a simplified
14 login procedure can be used wherein connecting the smart card to a workstation
15 initiates a login process not requiring use of a PIN number or other user input.